

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF APRIL 4TH, 1934.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board, Union Trust Building, on Wednesday, April 4th, 1934.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.

Mr. Laurence Hall Fowler, Architect for the Memorial Hall of Records, requested permission from the Board to employ a Clerk of Works on the job at a salary of \$45.00 per week. The request was approved. The Governor was authorized to write Mr. Fowler conveying the authority to employ the Clerk.

The Governor took up with the Board the question of the proposed new building at Springfield State Hospital. The appropriation for the building is \$100,000.00. The estimated cost is \$152,000. The Board was requested to approve a proposed arrangement for the erection of the building, and to authorize the transfer of \$17,000.00 of an amount of \$45,000.00 appropriated to the Hospital for Power Plant and other purposes to the account for the construction of the building, which would increase the amount coming from the State to \$117,000.00, the difference to be taken care of by a grant from the Public Works Administration of \$35,000.00.

Mr. Kirkman was present and discussed at length the needs of the Hospital, questioning the wisdom of approving the erection of the building as proposed instead of a Dormitory Building the cost of which would be within the amount allotted in the bond issue account. It was stated that it might not be wise to take away from the amount of \$45,000.00 any money to be used in the construction of the new building since the sum of \$45,000.00 was intended for items of work which it was considered very desirable to have done.

The Board decided it advisable to have Doctor McAdoo, Superintendent of Springfield State Hospital and Doctor G. H. Preston, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, meet with the Board on Tuesday April 10th, at four P. M. and discuss the situation.

The Secretary was instructed to request these gentlemen to attend the meeting to be held on that date.

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There were presented to the Board vouchers submitted by General Reckord in favor of Carl Schmidt for services, etc., in connection with work at the Fifth Regiment Armory.

It was decided to defer action on these vouchers until a meeting of the Board to be held on Tuesday, April 10th, and the Secretary was instructed to request General Reckord to attend that meeting.

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Colonel John Hinkley a member of the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, requested the Board to make available for the use of the Commissioners, for expenses in attending a Convention of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in Milwaukee, in August of this year, the sum of \$250.00. The unexpended balance of the appropriation to the Commissioners for the fiscal year ended September 30th, 1933 was reverted to the State Treasury in closing the books for that year. The Commissioners had requested that this balance be brought forward to take care of ~~expenses~~ to be incurred this year. The Comptroller had requested that he be allowed to make a reversion to keep the records straight, and had promised the Commissioners their application for an allowance out of the Emergency Reserve Fund would receive consideration .

The Board decided to approve the request for an allowance of \$250.00 from the Emergency Relief Fund.

Reserve

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The following letter from Doctor Winterode, Superintendent, Crownsville State Hospital, was read and considered:

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

March 23, 1934.

Mr. J. O. McCusker,
Chief Deputy Comptroller,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

I am forwarding you, under separate cover, two copies of contract with Bond for water project at the Crownsville State Hospital for the approval of the Board of Public Works.

One contract is for "Installation of Water Distribution System and Appurtenances" and the other is for "Furnishing and erection of Steel Water Tank and Tower and Appurtenances."

This contract has been approved by the Board of Managers and also by Mr. Wolman, State Engineer of Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, and shows all the signatures of the members of the Board, as required.

Copies of this contract have also been sent to the Attorney General for approval by the State Department of Health.

Thanking you for your early attention to this contract so that the work on this construction may be started.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert P. Winterode,
Robert P. Winterode,
Superintendent.

RPW/F

The contract between Crownsville State Hospital and Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company for furnishing and erecting a 250,000 gallon elevated steel water tank and tower, in the amount of \$12,450.00 was approved.

The contract between Crownsville State Hospital and the Marocco Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$13,556.63, for the installation of water distribution system and appurtenances in accordance with the proposal of the Marocco Construction Company, Inc., dated February 20th, 1934, was approved.

The Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital was authorized to execute the contracts with the respective companies.

The Comptroller took up with the Board the question of the account of the Washington, Brandywine & Point Lookout Railroad Company for gross receipts taxes for the year 1931. The Company represented to the Comptroller that it was in very bad financial condition, and that it was impossible to make payment of the bill at this time. It was indicated that the name of the Company was included in the list of delinquent corporations advertised in the Proclamation of the Governor, published for the first time on February 19th, 1934, and that the charter of the Company would be forfeited if relief were not given to the Company from the payment of the taxes.

It was stated that the Company is indebted to the Federal Government for a loan of funds, and that the Company has defaulted to the Government on the interest payable on the loan because of lack of funds; also that the Government agreed not to press the Company for the payment of the interest until such time as conditions become better.

The Comptroller was authorized to agree to accept \$25.00 from the Company at this time, and to remove the name from the forfeiture list, and to defer until later any steps toward the collection of the balance of the account.

The Comptroller took up with the Board the question of additional space for the Board of State Aid and Charities necessary because of the work of State Relief being handled through that Board. The Board requested permission to rent room no. 412 Union Trust Building, and to arrange for payment of the rent at the rate of \$600.00 a year out of funds originally provided as salary for Miss Doyas, who has been transferred from the State Account to Relief Payroll.

The Governor agreed to amend the Budget of the Board of State Aid and Charities creating an item for rent and transferring the \$600.00 from the salary account to the new item.

The Secretary presented proposed contract between the State of Maryland and the Consolidated Gas Electric Light and Power Company of Baltimore, for lighting around the State Circle.

The Secretary was requested to refer this contract to the Public Service Commission for advice as to whether the rates covered by the contract are fair and reasonable.

The following letter from Spring Grove State Hospital was read and considered:

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL

Feb 22, 1934.

Mr. Joseph O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

The following report is made of delinquent Pay Patients accounts, with explanations and recommendations in each case:

W. Keith Martin - amount due \$91.66

Responsible relative: Mr. W. M. Martin, 2931 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, Md. This patient was admitted as a private patient many years ago, and his account was always paid promptly. In March, 1933, however, Mr. W. M. Martin notified us that he could no longer pay for his relative, as he had lost his position and met with severe financial reverses. The patient was thereupon transferred to the Baltimore City list as of March 1st, 1933. The balance due at the time of transfer, however, remains unpaid and it is recommended that it be charged off as uncollectible.

Helen D. Hollander - amount due \$342.00

Brother, Mr. E. M. Schwartz, % Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D. C. This patient was admitted as a private patient in April, 1928. Her brother paid for her at the rate of \$50.00 a month until January, 1932, when at his request, when about four months in arrear, the rate was reduced to \$30.00 per month. He made a few payments at that rate, but complained that he could not keep the payments up. On January 1st, 1933 the patient was discharged, owing \$342.00. Mr. Schwartz signed an acknowledgment of the indebtedness and promised to pay \$25.00 a month until the account was settled, but he has made no payments whatever, and in answer to our last letter stated positively that he was unable to pay. In view of the fact that Mr. Schwartz paid nearly \$2,300.00 for his sister during the time she was here, it is recommended that the amount be written off as uncollectible.

William C. Keyser - amount due to January 31, 1934, \$823.50.

Mr. Edward A. O'Mara, Committee, 615 Munsey Building, Baltimore. It seems impossible to collect on this account without pressure from your office. We have written to Mr. O'Mara, but have received no response. A similar condition existed in 1932, and the account was reported to you in our letter of May 24, 1932. In July of that year we received payment of \$687.00 in full for the account to July 31, 1932. It is recommended that the matter be taken up with Mr. O'Mara, as was done in 1932.

Emma C. Miller - amount due \$360.00

Mr. W. N. Arnold, Committee, 615 Munsey Building, Baltimore. This patient was transferred to the City list on October 1, 1933, the balance of \$360.00 being due at that time. It is recommended that your office communicate with Mr. Arnold in reference to this account.

You are respectfully referred to our letter of May 24, 1932 regarding the account of Calvin Troupe amounting to \$1,356.00. It was recommended that the account be referred to the Attorney General for investigation. We have received no instructions from you regarding the account and presume the matter is still in abeyance.

Yours respectfully,

/s/ Robert E. Garrett.

Superintendent.

The Board authorized the writing off of the accounts as uncollectible by Spring Grove State Hospital, but directed that steps should be taken to have the persons involved committed as State Patients when it is decided it is not possible to secure any further payments for their maintenance as Pay Patients.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Joseph A. McInnes
Secretary.